

House, much revered on both sides of the aisle here. When I was elected to Congress in 1990, she had served for some years then as the only black woman in the Congress, because others had left. During that time and for her entire career here, however, she was known for her devotion, not only to her Chicago constituents and to women and to people of color, but for her dedication to the American people.

Cardiss Collins is remembered here for her astute judgment, for her ability, for her collegiality and for her dedication. It is a special pleasure to speak to this bill in particular, and I know that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) will regret that he was detained on an airplane and unable to perform this particular service for a woman I know is also his very good friend.

The second postal facility is named for Otis Grant Collins, who, prior to his death in 1992, was recognized as one of the premier activists in apprenticeship training in this country. In addition, while serving as state representative in the Illinois General Assembly, he was a champion of laws that protected minority communities from redlining.

The third postal facility is named for Mary Alice Ma Henry, who, prior to her death in 1995, was recognized as one of Chicago's most caring and compassionate community activists. She is remembered as a courageous leader for the poor, uninsured and the left out of our society. In 1976, the Mary Alice Ma Henry Family Health Center was dedicated and now serves over 20,000 patients every year.

The fourth postal facility is named after former state representative Robert LeFlore, Jr., who, prior to his death in 1993, was recognized as a leading advocate for the disadvantaged and the underprivileged. He was a tireless worker on behalf of seniors and children, and his contributions will be remembered for a long time.

These individuals represent the best of Chicago and the nation. Their contributions have been significant and their legacies have been embedded in the communities they touched. I am pleased to sponsor this bill on behalf of some of the great African American leaders in the Chicago community and in our country.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I join with my colleagues in commemorating the contributions of an outstanding former Member of Congress. Cardiss Collins, who served in Congress from 1973 to 1985 representing Illinois' 7th district, was a leader in so many ways. Naming a Chicago postal building after her is a much deserved honor.

After losing her husband in a tragic plane crash, Cardiss Collins committed to continuing the fight for social justice, won the 1973 special elections and began a distinguished tenure here in Washington. Her six terms of service were then the longest service for an African American female.

Cardiss Collins' career in Congress was highlighted by a number of notable positions. Congressman Collins was the ranking minority member on the Government Operations Committee, where she chaired the Subcommittee on Manpower and Housing. Cardiss Collins was the first African American and the first woman to serve as Democratic whip-at-large. In 1979, Collins was the Chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Congresswoman Collins' commitment to the people of her district and the people of Illinois was apparent even before she came to Congress. A graduate of Northwestern University, she began her career at the Illinois Department of Labor. She later went on to the Illinois Department of Revenue. Cardiss Collins' commitment to the American political system was also evident through her service as Democratic Committeeman of the 24th Ward.

Again, I applaud the most honorable career and dedication of Congresswoman Collins. I am proud to join my colleagues in the Illinois delegation who share this sentiment.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1191.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1191.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

#### NURSING RELIEF FOR DISADVANTAGED AREAS ACT OF 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 441) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the requirements for the admission of nonimmigrant nurses who will practice in health professional shortage areas.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 441

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act of 1999".

#### SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION OF NON-IMMIGRANT NURSES IN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS DURING 4-YEAR PERIOD.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW NON-IMMIGRANT CLASSIFICATION FOR NON-

IMMIGRANT NURSES IN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS.—Section 101(a)(15)(H)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(i)) is amended by striking “; or” at the end and inserting the following: “; or (c) who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform services as a registered nurse, who meets the qualifications described in section 212(m)(1), and with respect to whom the Secretary of Labor determines and certifies to the Attorney General that an unexpired attestation is on file and in effect under section 212(m)(2) for the facility (as defined in section 212(m)(6)) for which the alien will perform the services; or”.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 212(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(m)) is amended to read as follows:

“(m)(1) The qualifications referred to in section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(c), with respect to an alien who is coming to the United States to perform nursing services for a facility, are that the alien—

“(A) has obtained a full and unrestricted license to practice professional nursing in the country where the alien obtained nursing education or has received nursing education in the United States;

“(B) has passed an appropriate examination (recognized in regulations promulgated in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services) or has a full and unrestricted license under State law to practice professional nursing in the State of intended employment; and

“(C) is fully qualified and eligible under the laws (including such temporary or interim licensing requirements which authorize the nurse to be employed) governing the place of intended employment to engage in the practice of professional nursing as a registered nurse immediately upon admission to the United States and is authorized under such laws to be employed by the facility.

“(2)(A) The attestation referred to in section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(c), with respect to a facility for which an alien will perform services, is an attestation as to the following:

“(i) The facility meets all the requirements of paragraph (6).

“(ii) The employment of the alien will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of registered nurses similarly employed.

“(iii) The alien employed by the facility will be paid the wage rate for registered nurses similarly employed by the facility.

“(iv) The facility has taken and is taking timely and significant steps designed to recruit and retain sufficient registered nurses who are United States citizens or immigrants who are authorized to perform nursing services, in order to remove as quickly as reasonably possible the dependence of the facility on nonimmigrant registered nurses.

“(v) There is not a strike or lockout in the course of a labor dispute, the facility did not lay off and will not lay off a registered nurse employed by the facility within the period beginning 90 days before and ending 90 days after the date of filing of any visa petition, and the employment of such an alien is not intended or designed to influence an election for a bargaining representative for registered nurses of the facility.

“(vi) At the time of the filing of the petition for registered nurses under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(c), notice of the filing has been provided by the facility to the bargaining representative of the registered nurses at the facility or, where there is no such bargaining representative, notice of the filing has been provided to the registered nurses employed at the facility through posting in conspicuous locations.

“(vii) The facility will not, at any time, employ a number of aliens issued visas or